

REMARKS

The Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and Allowance of Claim 6 and Claims 21-26 and consideration and allowance of new claims 27 and 28 in view of the amendments presented above and the following arguments.

DOUBLE PATENTING REJECTIONS

Claims 21-26 were rejected based on double patenting. These claims have been amended as indicated above and Applicants respectfully submit that they are now in condition for allowance.

Claim 6 was rejected on the grounds of non-statutory double patenting. A Terminal Disclaimer is filed herewith.

35 U.S.C. §102 REJECTIONS

Claims 6 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by Field et al. (US # 5,637,174).

STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 6 and 21-26 were rejected as indicated above.

Claims 6 , 21-26 and new claims 27 and 28 remain pending in this case.

CLAIM 6 IS NOT ANTICIPATED BY, OR OBVIOUS IN VIEW OF, THE CITED ART

The Examiner rejected Claim 6 under 35 U.S.C. § 102, as being anticipated by Field et al. Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections on the ground that Field et al. does not teach Applicants' invention as now claimed and, further, there is no suggestion to modify the Field et al. device in the manner claimed. These amendments do add further limitations to the invention as claimed.

THE FIELD ET AL. PATENT

The Field et al. patent does not teach "forming an image from a plurality of partial images on printed sheets with the lamination module as Applicants have amended claim 6 to further add the limitation that an image is formed from a plurality of partial images on printed sheets.

Claim 6

In contrast to the technique of Fields et al., which is essentially a system for creating a laminated identification card from an already complete, color image of the user and a bar code on the back, Applicants' independent Claim 6, as amended, is directed to the creation of an image from a plurality partial images on printed sheets with the lamination module.

The desired image may comprise a plurality of images such as a magazine fold-out having merchandising information or a restaurant menu consisting of alphanumeric, graphic, and photographic information. The printed sheets may also be arranged to form a contiguous image, such as for example a geographical map as well as the above panoramic view of the Grand Canyon. Thus, an image, under Applicants method is created from a plurality of partial images. (See page 7, lines 23-30)

Comparing this with the system disclosed in Field et al., it is apparent that Field et al. does not teach or suggest such a system for forming an image from a plurality of partial images on printed sheets with a lamination module as required in independent claim 6. The closest Field et al. comes is the disclosure of laminating a single complete image and that is clearly well known in the art.

The Applicants therefore respectfully submit that claim 6, is not anticipated by, nor obvious over, Field et al. and is entitled to allowance.

CLAIMS 21-26 ARE LIKEWISE NOT ANTICIPATED BY, OR OBVIOUS IN VIEW OF, THE CITED ART

Claims 21-26 have been amended to include the limitation of forming an image from a plurality of partial images as discussed above with regard to Claim 6. Applicants respectfully submit, for the same reasons, that Claims 21-26 are not anticipated by, nor obvious over any of the cited references nor subject to the statutory double patenting rejection and are entitled to allowance.

NEW CLAIMS 27 AND 28.

New dependent claim 27 adds that the step of forming an image includes forming a contiguous image, as that term is used and defined in the specification as indicated above.

New dependent claim 28 adds that the step of forming an image includes the forming an enlarged image with multiple separate images.

Applicants respectfully submit that new claims 27 and 28 are allowable in their own right and for the reason that they depend from allowable claim 6 as set forth above.

CITED BUT NON-APPLIED REFERENCES

The subsidiary references have been reviewed but are submitted to be less relevant than the relied upon references.

CONCLUSION

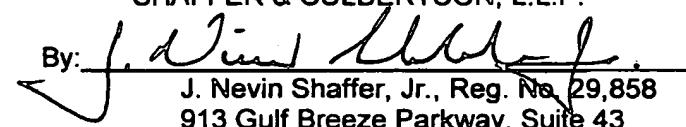
In light of the above, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of Claim 6 and 21-26 in addition to new claim 27 and 28. If the Examiner should feel that any issue remains as to the allowability of these claims, or that a conference might expedite allowance of the claims, the Examiner is asked to telephone the undersigned attorney.

Applicant intends this to be a complete response. No additional fee is believed due; however if a fee is due, please charge deposit account number indicated on the transmittal letter.

Respectfully submitted,

SHAFFER & CULBERTSON, L.L.P.

Date: 17 Jun 04

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